



CELEBRATING
OUR CENTENARY



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

Hall of Fame Inductees

Engineering Heritage Queensland

Colonel Daniel Edward EVANS *DSO MBE*

MIEAust

1885 - 1951

INDUCTED IN 2006

Colonel Daniel Edward Evans was born on 8 May 1885 in Geelong. In 1899 at the age of 14, he became an engineer apprentice at Bundaberg Foundry.

Moving to Adelaide, he shipped as an engineer on the cable-ship Restorer. In 1906, he gained his Board of Trade certificate at the age of 21 and his chief engineer's certificate in 1908.

In 1910 he and 23-year-old Arthur Deakin opened a small business in Edward Street Brisbane as suppliers of engineering equipment. They acquired their first workshop in 1913.

In 1912 Evans was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Australian Militia and joined the AIF as a Lieutenant in the 2nd Divisional Engineers in July 1915, serving in Egypt and France. Active service was terminated by wounds in 1918 when he was a Major.

He was Mentioned in Despatches and awarded the Distinguished Service Order in the New Year Honours of 1917.

Evans secured his appointment as a surveyor in Brisbane for Lloyds. He also joined the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland.

In 1924 Evans became Lieutenant-Colonel commanding the 5th Division, Australian Engineers and in 1930 he became Colonel

commanding the 11th Infantry Brigade. He was awarded the Volunteer Officers' Decoration in 1931.

The business was carried on during the war by Deakin and had prospered. Evans pioneered the introduction into Queensland of both oxy-acetylene and electric arc welding. A larger establishment was bought in 1922 and one of the first contracts was for 300 wagons for the Queensland Railways.

A new, larger workshop, built in 1926 at Rocklea for structural steel and railway engine repairs, manufactured steelwork for the Story Bridge in 1933. Joining MR Hornibrook, he chaired a new construction company that erected the bridge

Evans was an Associate Member and a Foundation Member of the Institution of Engineers Australia, serving on the first Council in 1921 and as Member in 1924. He was one of the first members of the Professional Engineers Registration Board and also belonged to the Institution of Naval Architects and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

He was on the Board of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Queensland from 1921 until his death. He left a substantial bequest to the University of Queensland and is commemorated by an annual lecture.